REMARKS

Claims 1-19 were originally presented in this application. By the amendments herein, claims 1-11, 17, 19 and 20 have been cancelled. Thus, claims 12-16, 18 and 21 remain for consideration. Favorable action is requested.

A new title has been supplied, as required by the Examiner. The new title is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The claims have been reviewed and several minor corrections have been made therein, as requested by the Examiner.

Amendments to the Claims

As noted herein, various amendments to the claims have been made in order to more clearly recite the claimed invention. The following constitutes a summary of these amendments:

- Claims 1-11 presently on file are cancelled, and claim 12 is amended to be independent. Later claims are amended to depend from claim 12.
- Claims 17 and 19, rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, 1st paragraph in connection with "combination" therapy, are cancelled.
- Claim 20 is cancelled and new claim 21 is added.
- With regard to the term "substituted", the substituents of the rings are originally specified in claim 12.
- As noted above and in order to expedite the prosecution of this application, the term "prodrug" has been deleted from the claims.

The amendments to the claims, as summarized above, overcome the rejection of claims 1-11 and 16-19 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as well as the rejection of claims 17 and 19 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph. Thus, further comment thereon is deemed to be unnecessary.

The amendments to the claims also overcome the rejection of claims 1-19 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph for lack of enablement. This rejection is also traversed and withdrawal thereof is requested.

Novelty

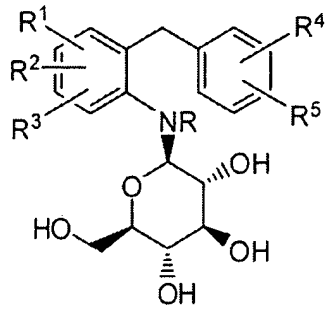
Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 11 and 16 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Lin et al. (Reference CB from IDS filed on January 31, 2006).

Claims 1-5 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Manis et al. (Reference CA of IDS filed on January 31, 2006).

These rejections are respectfully traversed. Withdrawal of these rejections is requested.

(1) Present Invention

The present invention is now directed to the compounds of the formula (IA):



(IA)

wherein R^1, R^2, and R^3, are independently a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkyl group, a haloalkyl group, a haloalkoxy group, a hydroxyalkyl group, an alkoxyalkyl group, an alkoxyalkoxy group, an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group, a cycloalkyl group, a cycloalkylidenemethyl group, a phenyl group, a phenylalkoxy group, a cyano group, a nitro group, an amino group, a mono- or di-alkylamino group, an alkanoylamino group, a carboxyl group, an alkoxycarbonyl group, a carbamoyl group, a mono- or di-alkylcarbamoyl group, an alkanoyl group, an alkylsulfonylamino group, a phenylsulfonylamino group, an alkylsulfinyl group, an alkylsulfonyl group or a phenylsulfonyl group;

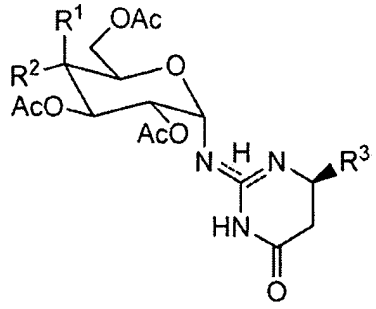
R^4 and R^5 are independently a hydrogen atom; a halogen atom; a hydroxyl group; an alkoxy group; an alkyl group; a haloalkyl group; a haloalkoxy group; a hydroxyalkyl group; an alkoxyalkyl group; a phenylalkyl group; an alkoxyalkoxy group; a hydroxyalkoxy group; an alkenyl group; an alkynyl group; a cycloalkyl group; a cycloalkylidenemethyl group; a phenyloxy group; a phenylalkoxy group; a cyano group; a nitro group; an amino group; a mono- or di-alkylamino group; an alkanoylamino group; a carboxyl group; an alkoxycarbonyl group; a carbamoyl group; a mono- or di-alkylcarbamoyl group; an alkanoyl group; an alkylsulfonylamino group; a phenylsulfonylamino group; an alkylsulfinyl group; an alkylsulfonyl group; a phenylsulfonyl group; a phenyl group optionally substituted by a halogen atom, a cyano group, an alkyl group, a haloalkyl group, an alkoxy group, a haloalkoxy group, an alkylenedioxy group, an alkyleneoxy group, or a mono- or di-alkylamino group; or a heterocyclyl group optionally substituted by a halogen atom, a cyano group, an alkyl group, a haloalkyl group, an alkoxy group, or a haloalkoxy group, or R^4 and R^5 are combined with each other at the terminals thereof to form an alkylene group; and

R is a hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, a lower alkanoyl group or a lower alkoxycarbonyl group,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

(2) Lin et al.

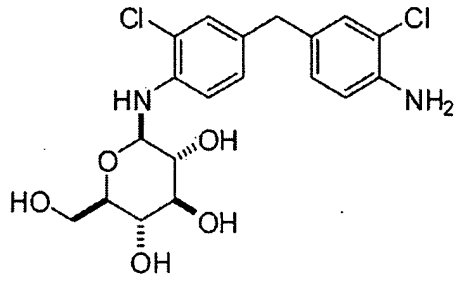
Lin et al. discloses the compounds of the following formula:



As is obvious from their structures, the compounds of Lin et al. are not covered by the claimed compounds of the formula (IA). Therefore, Lin et al. does not anticipate the compounds of the present invention.

(3) Manis et al.

Manis et al. discloses N-[4-[(4-amino-3-chlorophenyl)methyl]-2-chlorophenyl]-ß-D-glucopyranosylamine ("MBOCA-glucoside") of the following formula:



As is clear from the above formula, the glucopyranosylamino group of the Manis compounds is attached to the *para* position of the benzyl group. On the other hand, the glucopyranosylamino group of the claimed compounds of the formula (IA) is attached to the *ortho* position of the benzyl group. It is therefore clear that Manis et al. does not anticipate the compounds of the present invention.

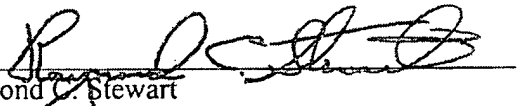
Having responded to each and every one of the objections and rejections raised by the Examiner, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable action to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Raymond C. Stewart Reg. No. 21,066 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: October 30, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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